

CHAPTER 5

SPECIAL MILITARY FUNERAL POLICY

Section I. GENERAL

107. Persons entitled to a special military funeral.

- a. Deputy Secretary of Defense.
- b. Former Secretary of Defense.
- c. Secretary of the Army, Navy, and Air Force.
- d. Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff.
- e. Five Star Generals and Fleet Admirals.
- f. Chief of Staff, U.S. Army.
- g. Chief of Naval Operations.
- h. Chief of Staff, U.S. Air Force.
- i. Commandant, U.S. Marine Corps.
- j. Commandant, U.S. Coast Guard.
- k. Other persons specifically designated by the Secretary of Defense.
- l. Foreign military personnel when designated by the President.

108. Eligibility for burial in national cemetery. Eligibility for a special military funeral does not in itself entitle the deceased to burial in Arlington National Cemetery or any other national cemetery (Reference: Act of 14 May 1948 (62 Stat; 24 U.S.C. 281)).

109. Responsibilities. a. The Secretary of the Army, Secretary of the Navy, Secretary of the Air Force, as appropriate, are the designated representatives of the Secretary of Defense for the purpose of making all arrangements in connection with special military funerals in Washington, D.C., including participation of all Armed Forces and coordination with the State Department for participation of all branches of the Government and Diplomatic Corps.

b. The Commanding General, Military District of Washington, U.S. Army; Commandant

of the Marine Corps; Commandant, Naval District of Washington, U.S. Navy; Commander, Headquarters Command, U.S. Air Force, as appropriate are the designated representatives of their respective services. The Commandant, U.S. Coast Guard is the designated representative of the Secretary of the Treasury. These Commanders are responsible for making all ceremonial arrangements in connection with special military funerals.

c. The service responsible for ceremonies connected with a special military funeral will, if appropriate, utilize exclusively the personnel of their service in all control and command positions and on all details that are not joint service.

d. The Secretary of the General Staff, Department of the Army; The Commandant of the Marine Corps and Chief of Naval Personnel, Department of the Navy; Deputy Chief of Staff, System and Logistics, Department of the Air Force; the Commandant, U.S. Coast Guard, as appropriate will—

- (1) Furnish a liaison officer to Commanding General, Military District of Washington, U.S. Army; Commandant of the Marine Corps; Commandant, Naval District Washington; Commander, Headquarters Command, U.S. Air Force; or Commandant, U.S. Coast Guard, as appropriate, to coordinate activities and participation of their respective services.
- (2) Designate an appropriate officer aide to the next of kin.
- (3) In coordination with the other military services and governmental departments, determine the distinguished persons to attend all phases

of the funeral and pass this information to the appropriate agency for preparation of announcements (*e* below). An information copy will be provided to HQ, MDW.

- (4) Designate a time and place for briefing of all military distinguished personnel.

e. The Adjutant General, Department of the Army; Commandant of the Marine Corps and Chief of Naval Personnel, Department of the Navy; Director of Administrative Services, Department of the Air Force; or Chief, Office of Personnel, U.S. Coast Guard, as appropriate, will—

- (1) Formulate the list of honorary pallbearers consonant with the desires of the next of kin and notify persons selected.
- (2) Issue announcements to distinguished persons, family, and friends to attend the funeral service and certain other phases of the funeral ceremony to include:
 - (a) Reply as to acceptance, if time will permit.
 - (b) Place and time of participation.
 - (c) Seating and parking permits as appropriate.
- (3) Furnish field grade officer guides beyond the capability of the Commanding General, Military District of Washington; Commandant of the Marine Corps; Commandant, Naval District Washington; Commander, Headquarters Command, U.S. Air Force; or Commandant, U.S. Coast Guard, as appropriate, and when requested.

f. Each Washington, D.C. area service com-

mander or commandant will furnish liaison officers to the appropriate Washington, D.C. area service commander or commandant to coordinate participation of members of their service.

g. When it is desired that the remains not be brought to Washington, D.C., the appropriate Army Commander, Commandant of the Naval District, Air Force Commander, or Commandant of the Coast Guard District, as appropriate, in whose area demise occurs, is the designated representative of the Secretary of Defense (or Secretary of Treasury) for the purpose of making necessary funeral arrangements in accordance with the desires of the immediate family. To this end he is authorized to carry out such portions of the Special Military Funeral Plan as he may deem appropriate, utilizing local facilities when practicable.

110. Procedure. *a.* If the demise occurs in Washington, D.C., the remains will be moved to a selected place of repose (Room of Repose, Amphitheater, Arlington National Cemetery; local funeral home; Washington Cathedral; Saint Matthew's Cathedral or other place of repose) where it will be attended by a guard of honor composed of representatives of all the Armed Forces. If the demise occurs outside Washington, D.C., the remains will be transported to Washington, D.C. for final honors. The remains will be met at the point of arrival in Washington by a reception party and escorted to the place of repose.

b. The remains will lie in repose until the day of the funeral service; usually the second day following the day of demise or the second day following the day of arrival in Washington, D.C. On the day of the funeral service, the funeral cortege will leave the place of repose for the funeral site or the main funeral procession, whichever is appropriate.

Section II. DEMISE AND MOVEMENT TO WASHINGTON, D.C.

111. Demise outside continental United States. If demise occurs outside continental United States:

a. The senior U.S. Armed Forces commander will—

- (1) Immediately form a guard of honor

composed of officers and enlisted personnel to attend the remains until departure for the United States.

- (2) Coordinate arrangements for—

- (a) Return of remains to United States.
- (b) Assignment of appropriate escort

to accompany remains to the United States.

(c) Appropriate local ceremonies.

b. The commander of the appropriate Army Area, Naval District, Air Force Command, or Coast Guard District, as appropriate, will coordinate, utilizing the facilities of all Armed Forces, as required, for the reception at port of entry and transportation of the remains to Washington, D.C., including appropriate escort.

112. Demise within continental United States. If demise occurs within the continental United States but outside the Washington, D.C. area, the appropriate Army Commander, the Commandant of the Naval District, the Air Force Commander, or Commandant of the Coast Guard District, as appropriate, will—

a. Immediately form a guard of honor composed of representatives of all Armed Forces, as practicable, to attend the remains until departure for Washington, D.C.

b. Coordinate arrangements for—

(1) Return of remains to Washington, D.C.

(2) Assignment of appropriate escort to accompany remains to Washington, D.C.

(3) Appropriate local ceremonies.

113. Demise in Washington, D.C. area. If demise occurs in Washington, D.C. area, the Commanding General, Military District of Washington, U.S. Army; Commandant of the Marine Corps; Commandant, Naval District of Washington; Commander, Headquarters Command, U.S. Air Force; or Commandant, Coast Guard, as appropriate, will—

a. Arrange for remains to be moved to place of repose with appropriate ceremony.

b. Immediately form a guard of honor composed of representatives of all the Armed Forces to attend the remains while lying in repose.

c. Proceed as indicated in paragraphs 117 through 123.

Section III. DEMISE OUTSIDE WASHINGTON, D.C. AREA— ARRIVAL OF REMAINS AND MOVEMENT TO PLACE OF REPOSE

114. Arrival. The Commanding General, Military District of Washington, U.S. Army; Commandant of the Marine Corps; Commandant, Naval District Washington; Commander, Headquarters Command, U.S. Air Force; or Commandant, U.S. Coast Guard, as appropriate, will—

a. Arrange for the arrival of the remains to include an appropriate ceremony.

b. Ascertain place and time of arrival of the remains and arrange for the attendance of:

- (1) Special honor guard composed of two General or Flag officers from each of the Armed Services; U.S. Army, U.S. Marine Corps, U.S. Navy, U.S. Air Force, and U.S. Coast Guard.
- (2) Family.
- (3) Honorary pallbearers.
- (4) Clergy.
- (5) Other official mourners.
- (6) Troops.

(a) Selected body bearers composed of two enlisted personnel from each of the Armed Forces.

(b) Joint National Color detail and personal flag bearer, as appropriate.

(c) Joint honor cordon.

(d) Security cordon.

(e) Band.

(f) Saluting battery.

(g) Medical support.

115. Movement to place of repose. The Commanding General, Military District of Washington, U.S. Army; Commandant of the Marine Corps; Commandant, Naval District of Washington; Commander, Headquarters Command, U.S. Air Force; or Commandant, U.S. Coast Guard, as appropriate will—

a. Arrange for military escort for motorized funeral cortege from point of arrival of the remains to the place of repose consisting of the following:

- (1) Police escort.
- (2) Escort commander.
- (3) Special honor guard.
- (4) Honorary pallbearers.
- (5) Clergy.
- (6) Hearse.
- (7) Body bearers, National Color detail and personal flag bearer, as appropriate.
- (8) Family.
- (9) Other official mourners.

b. Coordinate with the Chief of the Metropolitan Police and/or U.S. Park Police in determining route of cortege from point of arrival to place of repose.

Section IV. REPOSE, FUNERAL SERVICE, AND PROCESSION

117. Period of repose. The remains will lie in repose from 1200 hours of day following the day of demise if in Washington, D.C. area or from time of arrival in Washington, D.C. until 1300 hours of the day of burial or the day of departure of remains for final interment (second day following day of demise if in Washington, D.C., or second day following day of arrival in Washington, D.C.). The period from 1100 hours to 1230 hours on the day of funeral is reserved for such private services as the family may desire. Repose will terminate at 1200 hours if burial is in Arlington National Cemetery.

118. Ceremony at place of repose and movement of remains from place of repose. *a.* The remains will be removed from the place of repose at 1300 hours (or 1200 hours) on the second day.

b. The Commanding General, Military District of Washington, U.S. Army; Commandant of the Marine Corps; Commandant, Naval District Washington; Commander, Headquarters Command, U.S. Air Force; or Commandant, U.S. Coast Guard, as appropriate, will arrange for—

- (1) Appropriate ceremony at place of repose to consist of:
 - (a) Secretary of Treasury.
 - (b) Secretary of Defense.

116. Arrival at place of repose. The Commanding General, Military District of Washington, U.S. Army; Commandant of the Marine Corps; Commandant, Naval District of Washington; Commander, Headquarters Command, U.S. Air Force; or Commandant, U.S. Coast Guard, as appropriate, will arrange for:

- a.* Band.
- b.* Joint honor cordon.
- c.* Security cordon.
- d.* Guard of honor.
- e.* Appropriate ceremony to include personnel in attendance at point of arrival.
- f.* Medical support.

- (c) Secretaries of the Army, Navy, and Air Force.
- (d) State Department and Diplomatic Representatives.
- (e) Family.
- (f) Honorary pallbearers.
- (g) Clergy.
- (h) Special honor guard.
 1. Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.
 2. Chief of Staff, U.S. Army.
 3. Chief of Naval Operations.
 4. Chief of Staff, U.S. Air Force.
 5. Commandant, U.S. Marine Corps.
 6. Commandant, U.S. Coast Guard.
- (i) Escort commander.
- (j) Band.
- (k) Joint honor cordon.
- (l) Security cordon.
- (m) Selected body bearers composed of two enlisted personnel from each of the Armed Forces.
- (n) Joint National Color detail and personal flag bearer, as appropriate.
- (o) Other official mourners.
- (p) Medical support.
- (2) Motorized funeral cortege to place of funeral service or to main funeral procession formation area, as appropriate.

c. If the funeral service is to be held in the Washington Cathedral or another funeral site in Washington, D.C., the funeral cortege will accompany the hearse to the funeral site. When the service is concluded, the funeral cortege will proceed to participate in the main funeral procession at the appropriate location.

d. If the funeral service is to be held in the Amphitheater, Arlington National Cemetery, the funeral cortege will leave the place of repose and take its place in the main funeral procession at the appropriate location.

119. Funeral service. a. Dependent upon the religious faith of the deceased, the day of the funeral service will be as follows:

- (1) If demise occurs in the Washington, D.C. area, the funeral service will be held on the second day following the day of demise.
- (2) If demise occurs outside the Washington, D.C. area, the funeral service will be held on the second day (if Sunday, the third day) following day of arrival of remains in Washington, D.C.

b. The Commanding General, Military District of Washington, U.S. Army; Commandant of the Marine Corps; Commandant, Naval District Washington; Commander, Headquarters Command, U.S. Air Force; or Commandant, U.S. Coast Guard, as appropriate, will—

- (1) Coordinate with the Chief of the Metropolitan and/or U.S. Park Police for police escort to and from the funeral service.
- (2) Arrange for attendance of individuals already in attendance at place of repose, less the band, and with the addition of an usher detail.
- (3) Provide medical support.

120. Main funeral procession. The Commanding General, Military District of Washington, U.S. Army; Commandant of the Marine Corps; Commandant, Naval District Washington; Commander, Headquarters Command, U.S. Air Force; or Commandant, U.S. Coast Guard, as appropriate, will arrange for the main funeral procession as follows:

a. If the burial is to be at Arlington Na-

tional Cemetery, the cortege will join the main funeral procession on Constitution Avenue in the vicinity of 17th Street, NW. The casket transfer to the caisson will take place at 16th Street, NW, and Constitution Avenue. The procession will then proceed to Arlington National Cemetery.

b. If burial is outside Washington, D.C., and Union Station is the point of departure, the cortege will join the main funeral procession at 17th Street, NW, on Constitution Avenue (there will be no casket transfer) and move directly to Union Station.

c. If burial is outside of the Washington, D.C. area and the point of departure is MATS Terminal, Washington National Airport, Washington Navy Yard Annex, or Andrews Air Force Base, the cortege will join the main funeral procession at the intersection of Delaware Avenue and Constitution Avenue (there will be no casket transfer). The procession will move along Constitution Avenue to 14th Street, N.W., where a prescribed portion of the cortege will be detached. The detached units will go directly to the point of departure.

d. Participating personnel:

- (1) Police escort.
- (2) Escort Commander (Commanding General, Military District of Washington, U.S. Army; General officer designated by the Commandant of the Marine Corps; Commandant, Naval District Washington; Commander, Headquarters Command, U.S. Air Force; flag officer designated by the Commandant of the Coast Guard, as appropriate).
- (3) Troops—Troop commander (appropriate service) and staff (one officer from each of the Armed Forces).

FIRST MARCH UNIT

Troop Commander (appropriate service) and Armed Forces Staff.

Band of appropriate service.

Company of Cadets, USMA.*

Company of Midshipmen, USNA.*

Squadron of Cadets, USAFA.*

Company of Cadets, USCGA.*

* Participation as desired by the appropriate service.

SECOND MARCH UNIT

Troop Commander (appropriate service) and Armed Forces Staff.

Band.

Company, U.S. Army (1st Bn (Reinf), 3d Inf).

Company, U.S. Marine Corps.

Company, U.S. Navy.

Squadron, U.S. Air Force.

Company, U.S. Coast Guard.

Composite Company, U.S. Service Women (less Coast Guard).

(4) Cortege consisting of:

- (a) Special honor guard (para 118b(1) (h)).
- (b) Honorary pallbearers.
- (c) National Color.
- (d) Clergy.
- (e) Hearse or caisson.
- (f) Joint body bearer detail.
- (g) Personal flag.
- (h) Caparisoned horse (if appropriate).
- (i) Family.**
- (j) Secretary of Treasury.
- (k) Secretary of Defense.
- (l) Secretaries of the Army, Navy, and Air Force.
- (m) State Department and Diplomatic Representatives.
- (n) Other official mourners.

e. Coordinate with Chief of Metropolitan and/or U.S. Park Police.

f. Arrange for cars for all participants in procession.

g. Arrange for flights of aircraft to fly over procession, if appropriate.

h. Provide medical support.

121. Funeral service and/or interment at Arlington National Cemetery. The Commanding General, Military District of Washington, U.S. Army; Commandant of the Marine Corps; Commandant, Naval District Washington; Commander, Headquarters Command, U.S. Air Force; or Commandant, U.S. Coast Guard, as appropriate, will arrange for the following:

a. Appropriate ceremony at the Amphitheater and gravesite.

** Includes next of kin and relatives designated by next of kin.

b. Additional participating personnel.

- (1) Saluting battery.
- (2) Firing party.
- (3) Security cordon.
- (4) Band.
- (5) Usher detail.
- (6) Parking detail.
- (7) Medical support.

c. General seating plan for Amphitheater.

122. Departure of remains. In the event interment is not in the Washington, D.C., area, the Commanding General, Military District of Washington, U.S. Army; Commandant of the Marine Corps; Commandant, Naval District Washington; Commander, Headquarters Command, U.S. Air Force; or Commandant, U.S. Coast Guard, as appropriate, will arrange for the following:

a. Appropriate ceremony at the point of departure to include the following:

- (1) Secretary of Treasury.
- (2) Secretary of Defense.
- (3) Secretaries of the Army, Navy, and Air Force.
- (4) State Department and Diplomatic Representatives.
- (5) Special honor guard (para 118b(1) (h)).
- (6) Family.
- (7) Clergy.
- (8) Band.
- (9) Body bearers, National Color detail, and personal flag bearer, as appropriate.
- (10) Joint honor cordon.
- (11) Joint street honor cordon.
- (12) Security cordon.
- (13) Saluting battery.
- (14) Medical support.

b. Escort to accompany remains to final resting place.

c. Rail, air, or motor transportation to transport remains and accompanying party to final resting place.

123. Responsibility for reception of remains and funeral service outside Washington, D.C. area. The appropriate Army Commander, Commandant of the Naval District, Air Force Com-

mander, or Commandant of the Coast Guard District in whose area interment will take place is the designated representative of the Secretary of Defense or Secretary of Treasury for the purpose of making arrangements for—

a. Participation of all Armed Forces and for coordination with State and local authorities

in connection with the reception of the remains and funeral services.

b. Carrying out the above responsibilities in accordance with the wishes of the immediate family.

c. Utilizing the services of local organizations when practicable.